

YOUNG SUN



A SECTION of the RMIT. These roofs cover the machine shops, foundries, automotive school and the school of mathematics.

CLASSROOMS WITHOUT CLASS

"CONVERTED factories and cellars, a former hotel and old show-rooms are hardly ideal classrooms," said Wayne McGough.

"Yet, these are the sort of classrooms we have at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology."

"A cafeteria which seats 160 and a student lounge seating about 100 do not meet the needs of 12,000 students."

Wayne, 20, is secretary of the RMIT Students' Representative Council.

The SRC is sending letters to Victoria's 142 candidates in the forthcoming Federal election — inviting them to inspect the "poor physical conditions" at RMIT.

What response do

they expect from the candidates?

"We're hopeful," Wayne said.

"It is their duty to accept our invitation and come. Nearly every electorate in Victoria provides students for RMIT."

He criticized the recent Federal Government grants to the Colleges of Advanced Education.

Not so spectacular

"The alleged record grants — an increase of 117 per cent on the previous grant — are not so spectacular when analysed."

"The three Victorian universities were granted more funds than all the Colleges of Advanced Education in Australia," he said.

"We will only be able to construct

one new building of questionable quality. We require at least three new buildings."

Wayne said the new building would duplicate the recently completed Casey building" at RMIT. He listed the Casey building's features as including:

- Cracking bricks.
- Bad acoustics.
- Exposed plumbing.
- No air conditioning.

"The Federal Government is beginning to play an increasing role in education. However, present government policies are not moving quickly enough," Wayne said.

"This year matriculants were refused entry to RMIT because of lack of space, staff and facilities."

The Colleges of Advanced Education should get an "equal go" with the universities in providing standard facilities, he said.

Wayne said the library position demonstrated how RMIT suffered in comparison with the universities.

He quoted these statistics for the number of books per student:

Monash University 45, Melbourne University 40, RMIT 4.

Asking too much?

The Work report on colleges of advanced education showed that RMIT should have a book stock of 150,000.

"We have 44,000," Wayne said.

He quoted an excerpt from the statement of the Conference on Planning in Higher Education, held earlier this year in NSW.

"Universities, colleges of advanced education and teachers should be regarded as full partners for broadly comparable conditions, salaries and facilities in all institutions of higher education."

"A full partner. Is it asking too much?" Wayne asked.



BY
DAVID
GRIFFITHS

A 'POOR' EDUCATION

tertiary scholarships than their city counterparts."

In addition, high schools of a good standard were not available for many country children, he said.

"They also suffer through lack of

especially in older, poorer, urban areas.

"The Department of Immigration in a study of migrant education in NSW has just shown that over a third of the children of non-English speaking migrants have language difficulties at school.

"There would be over

tion should be in high school. The actual figure is only 2 per cent," he said.

"In the 1966 census 40 per cent of aboriginals had received no education as against 10 per cent of other Australians.

"Tens of thousands of

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